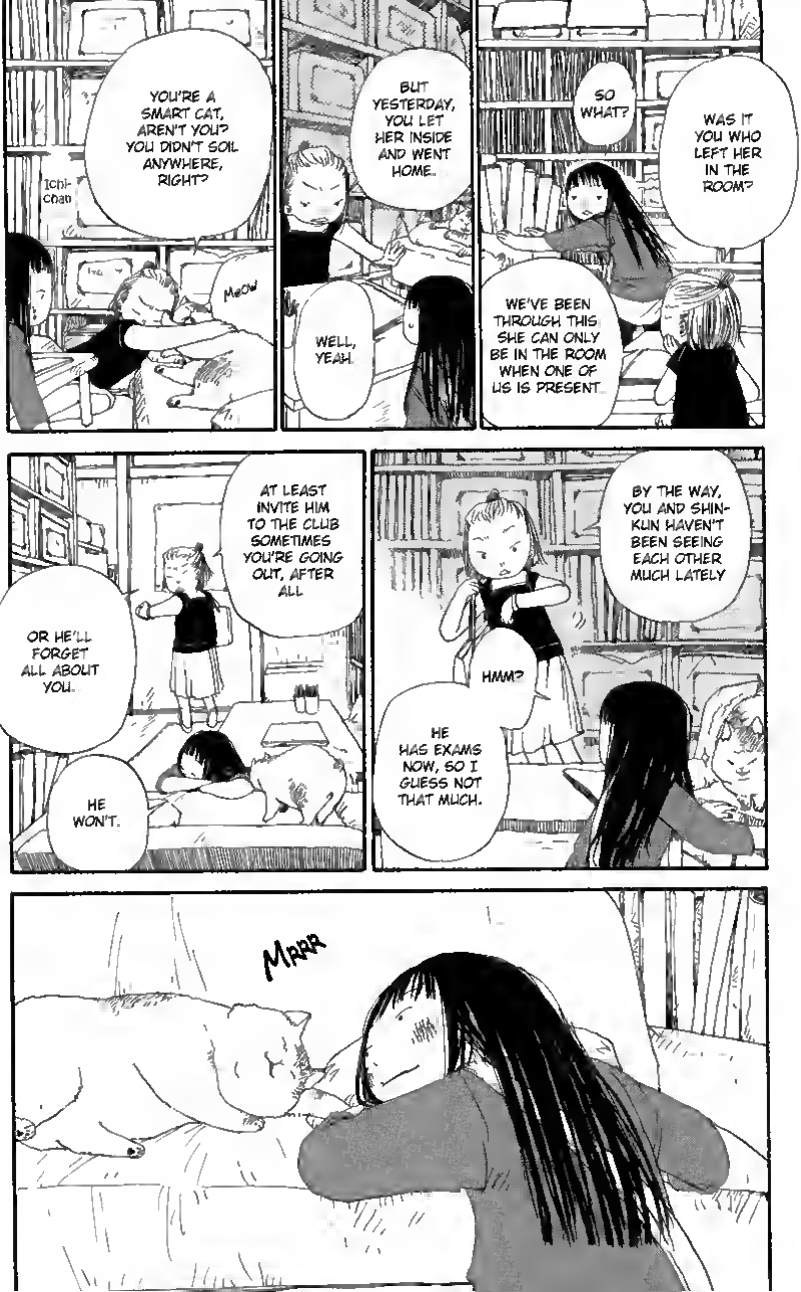
Chapter 2

Hanako and the Colors of the Rain.

...INGS.
STOOOCK-INGS...
STOCK-INGS?

I'LL CATCH THEM!
FLYING STOCKINGS?!
Hey!
SWOOSH
SWOOSH
STOCKINGS!
DID SOMEBODY'S LAUNDRY FALL OFF THE BALCONY?
STOCKINGS!
OH, THANK YOU SO MUCH!
MEOW
GRAB
MEOW
MEOW
YOU WON'T GET AWAY FROM ME!
I can sympathize.
THANK YOU FOR HELPING ME CATCH HIM
I WANTED TO GIVE HIM A BATH, BUT HE RAN AWAY.
THAT KIND OF "STOCKINGS", THEN

LATELY, I'VE BEEN SURROUNDED BY NOTHING BUT CATS
Club Admission
HELLO!
AH, MAKI-CHAN
I allow you to step closer
YOU'RE JUST SO CHUBBY.
HELLO, ICHI-CHAN
OH, HANAKO
Mewo


YOU'RE A SMART CAT, AREN'T YOU? YOU DIDN'T SOIL ANYWHERE, RIGHT?
Ichi-chan
MEOW
BUT YESTERDAY, YOU LET HER INSIDE AND WENT HOME.
WELL, YEAH.
SO WHAT?
WAS IT YOU WHO LEFT HER IN THE ROOM?
WE'VE BEEN THROUGH THIS. SHE CAN ONLY BE IN THE ROOM WHEN ONE OF US IS PRESENT.
AT LEAST INVITE HIM TO THE CLUB SOMETIMES. YOU'RE GOING OUT, AFTER ALL.
OR HE'LL FORGET ALL ABOUT YOU.
HE WON'T.
BY THE WAY, YOU AND SHIN-KUN HAVEN'T BEEN SEEING EACH OTHER MUCH LATELY.
HMM?
HE HAS EXAMS NOW, SO I GUESS NOT THAT MUCH.
MRRR

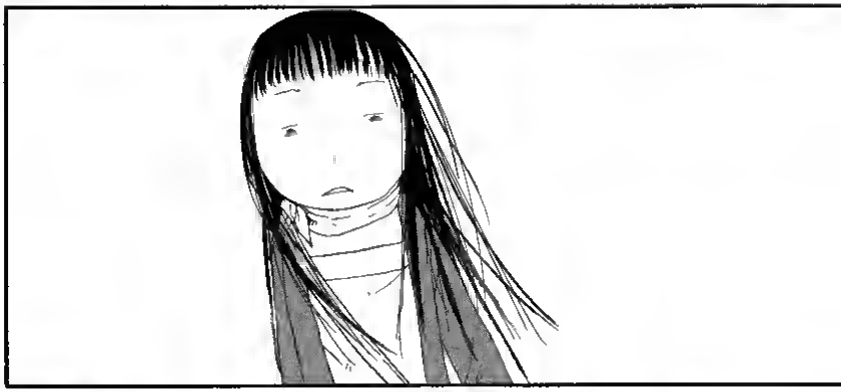
LOOKING AT YOUR FACE, IT'S LIKE YOU'RE LAUGHING THROUGH CRYING EYES
MEOW
So chubby
Nya
HMM?
SHIN-KUN!
MAKI
WHERE DO YOU PLAN ON GOING DURING SUMMER VACATION?
MEOW
PROBABLY ABROAD? WHEN ELSE IF NOT THIS YEAR?
EH? WHAT'S WRONG?
CAN I SPEAK WITH YOU FOR A MOMENT?
AH... YOU SEE...

WELL, WELL NOW
HE DUMPED YOU?
GULP
AND HE EVEN ...
WHAT WHAT HAPPENED?
ICHI-CHAAAAAN!
Are Mihoko's tutoring with her?
WHAT
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
I SEE
MAKI, I'M VERY SORRY, BUT I WANT TO BREAK UP
BREAK UP?
WE WERE BEHIND THE SIXTH GATE, AND AT THE SAME TIME ...
HANAKO WAS PASSING ON THE WALL

♪ Nya
WHAT...
SLIDE
TELL ME...
♪ Purr
♪ MeOW
.....
SMACK
ズス
WRONG...
Meoooow
WHAT WENT...
fall

WOOOSH
AND HE STARTED LAUGHING...
HAHAHAHAHAHA!
PFT...
Meeeeeow
HE ALSO SAID, THAT HE'S LEAVING OUR CLUB.
PROBABLY, BECAUSE OF ME!
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS.
.....
HOW COULD HE LAUGH AT A TIME LIKE THAT?!

SCRATCH
Meow
Meow
Gulp
Sigh
Shoo
Shoo
RUN ALONG
HOW CAN I BE ANGRY?!
Oof
HOW
Jump

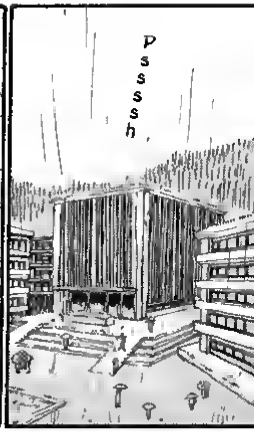


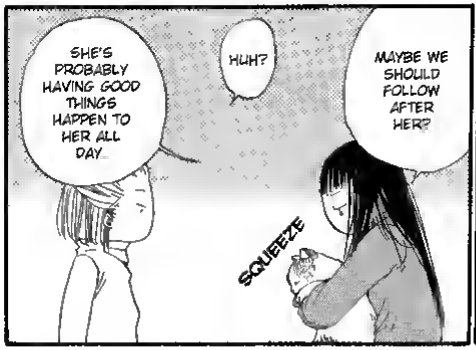
Meow

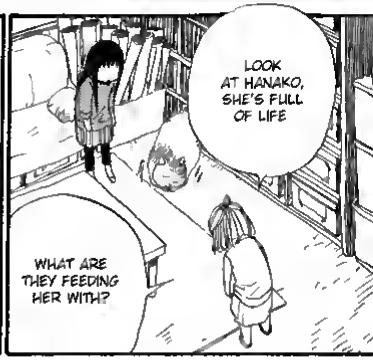
OH.
IT'S YOU FROM THIS MORNING..
CAN I PET YOU?
SHICK
MEOW?
SPARK
HOW CAN YOU STAY ANGRY?
SCRATCHES
UNLIKE HANAKO ...
NORMAL CATS ARE ALL SO SKINNY...

MAKI, WERE YOU CRYING THROUGH THE NIGHT OR SOMETHING?
YUP...

HELLO!
HELLO

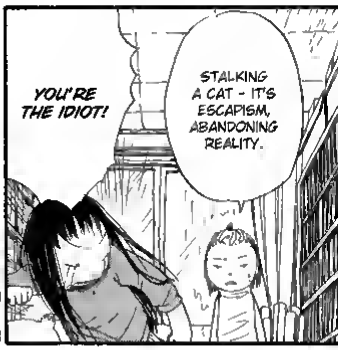

Pssssh


SHE'S PROBABLY HAVING GOOD THINGS HAPPEN TO HER ALL DAY...
HUH?
MAYBE WE SHOULD FOLLOW AFTER HER?
SQUEEZE

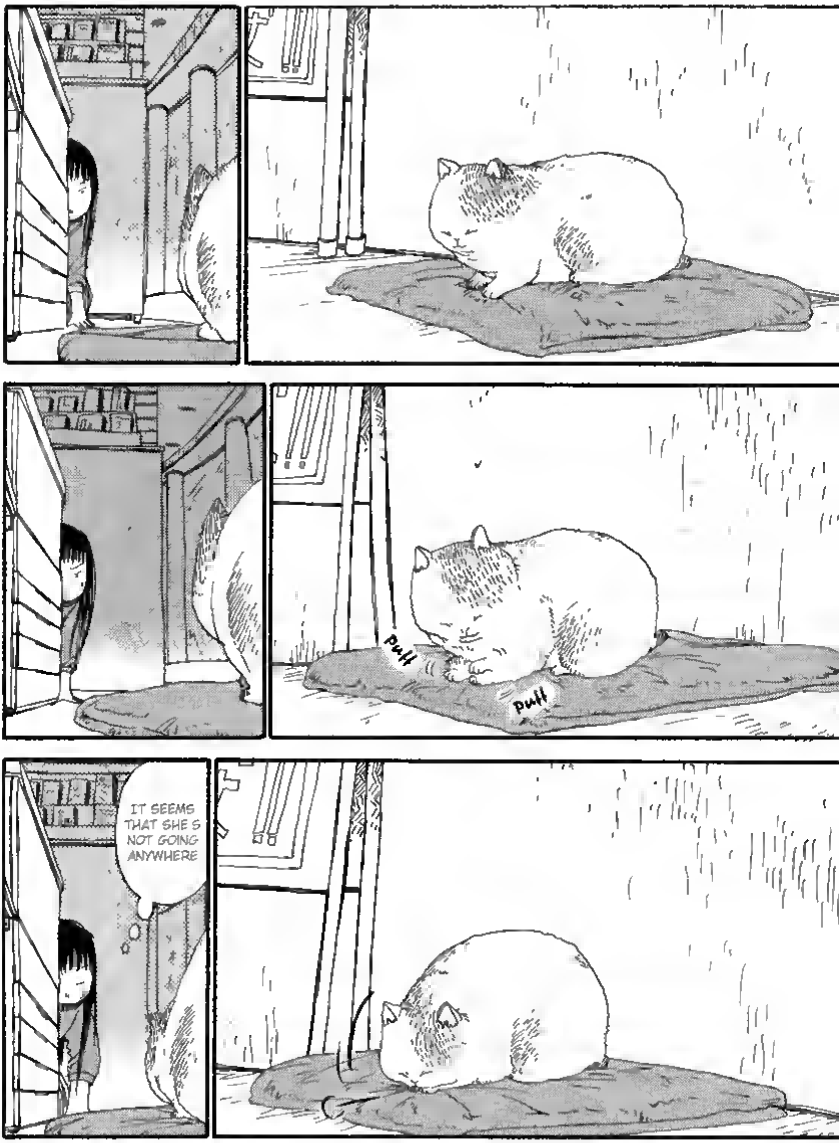

LOOK AT HANAKO, SHE'S FULL OF LIFE
WHAT ARE THEY FEEDING HER WITH?

AND MAYBE SOMETHING GOOD WILL ALSO HAPPEN TO ME

SO WHAT OF IT? I'LL JUST TAKE A LOOK...

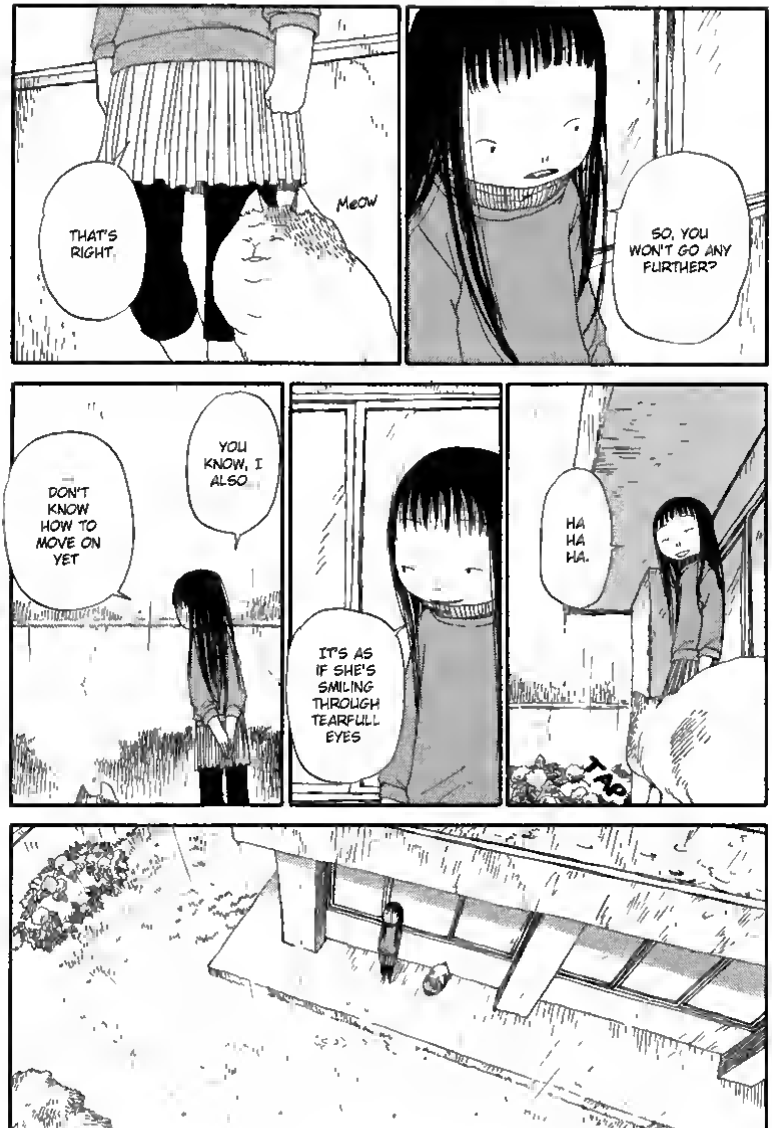

YOU'RE THE IDIOT!
STALKING A CAT - IT'S ESCAPISM, ABANDONING REALITY.

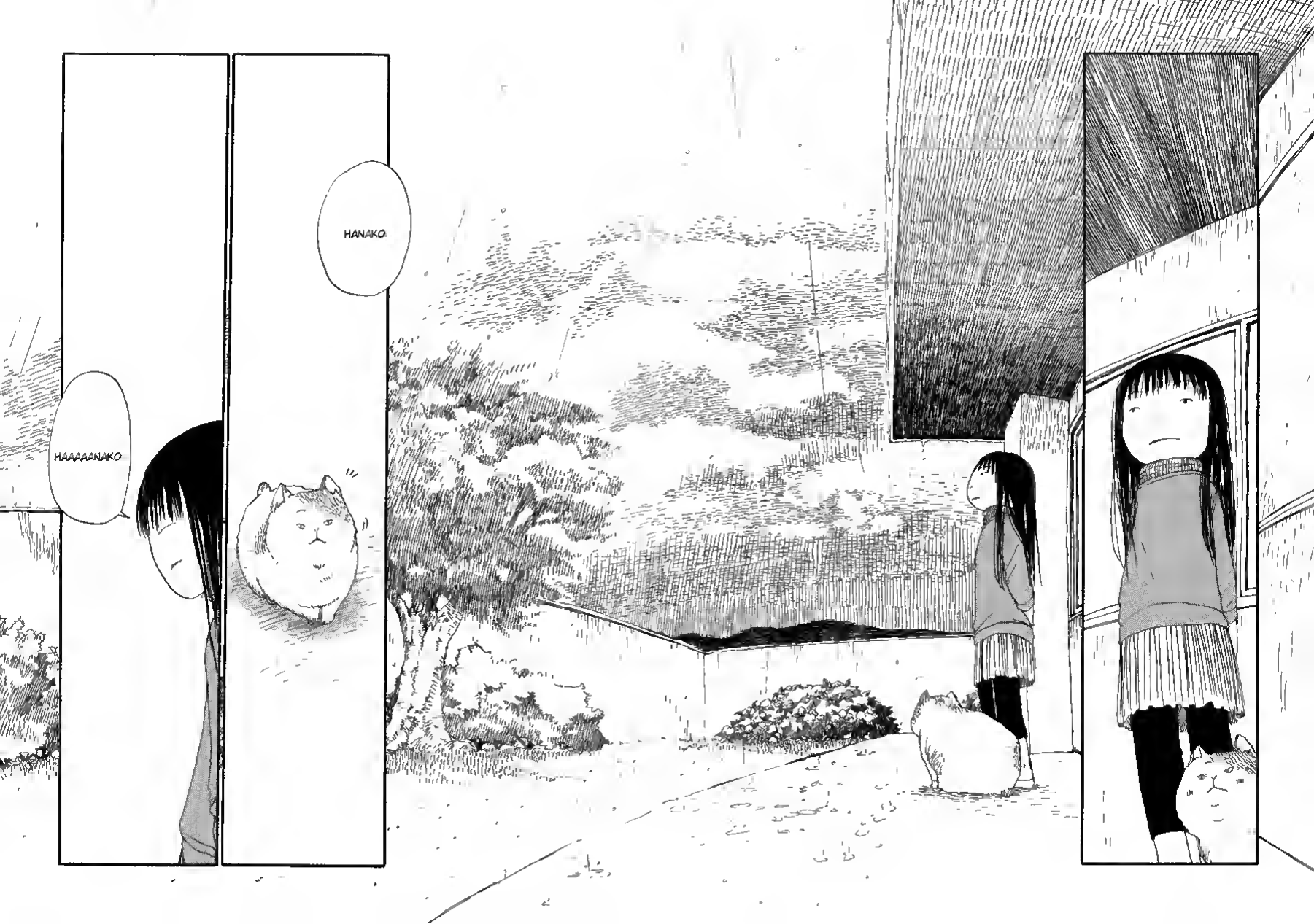
I'll give you something right away
OH, MIN-CHAN!
Here as well
OH, MOMO-CHAN
WHEN SHIN-KUN AND I MET...
THERE WERE SO MANY GOOD THINGS...
DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT! WHAT ARE SO HAPPY ABOUT?
Meow
SHE PASSED EVERY ROOM
AND EVERYONE HAD A DIFFERENT NAME FOR HER

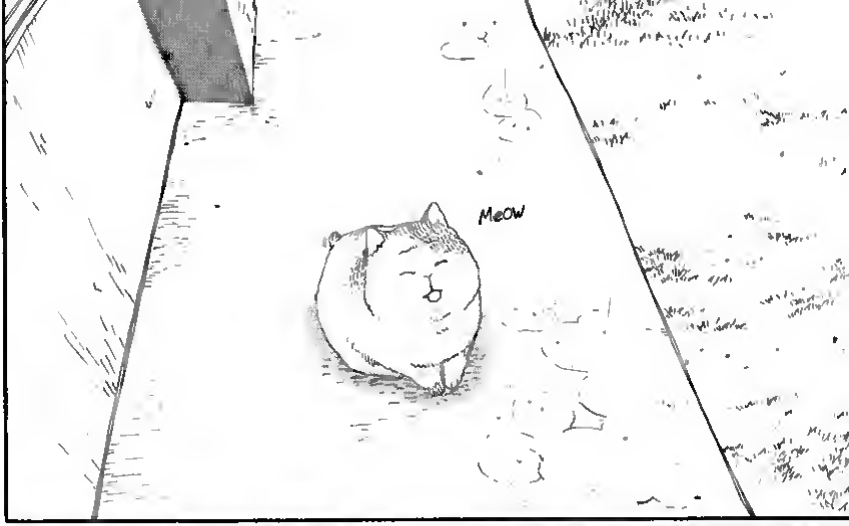

Puff
Puff
IT SEEMS THAT SHE'S NOT GOING ANYWHERE

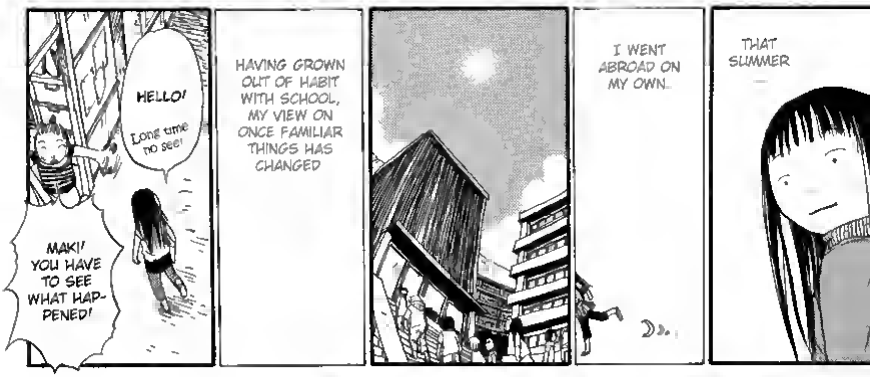
SHE ALWAYS DOES THE SAME ROUTE
REALLY?
SHE'LL GET GOING SOON.
MeOW
ARE YOU FOLLOWING THAT CAT?
OOPS. YEAH
THAT'S RIGHT!
HERE SHE GOES
SHE WALKS A LOT
psssh
psssh
psssh

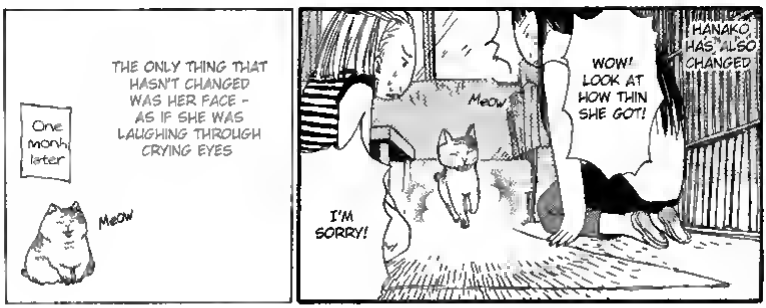
Eh?
SO THIS IS PART OF YOUR ROUTE AS WELL
STOP
YESTERDAY ON THIS CORNER, WE
THAT'S...
Tap Tap
HEY, WHAT'S UP?
HANAKO?
HMM. SHE STOPPED FOR SOME RE SON.
MAYBE SHE REMEMBERED YESTERDAY'S FLIGHT?


MEOW
THAT'S RIGHT.
SO, YOU WON'T GO ANY FURTHER?
YOU KNOW, I ALSO
DON'T KNOW HOW TO MOVE ON YET
IT'S AS IF SHE'S SMILING THROUGH TEARFULL EYES
HA HA HA.
TAP


HANAKO
HAAAAANAKO


MEOW


HELLO!
Long time no see!
MAKI! YOU HAVE TO SEE WHAT HAPPENED!
HAVING GROWN OUT OF HABIT WITH SCHOOL, MY VIEW ON ONCE FAMILIAR THINGS HAS CHANGED
I WENT ABROAD ON MY OWN...
THAT SUMMER


One month later
MEOW
THE ONLY THING THAT HASN'T CHANGED WAS HER FACE - AS IF SHE WAS LAUGHING THROUGH CRYING EYES
MEOW
I'M SORRY!
WOW! LOOK AT HOW THIN SHE GOT!
HANAKO HAS ALSO CHANGED

Nekomichi

Nekomichi by Hisae Iwaoka

Chapter 2

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